

## Nutrient Management Plans

Nutrient Management involves the balancing of nutrient inputs from manure, fertilizer, soil and crops to the amount of nutrients removed by the crop grown. Proper management requires the development of a written nutrient management plan (NMP) based on soil analysis, manure analysis, spreader calibration and knowledge of crop inputs and requirements.

As you may be aware, financial assistance is provided by the Homegrown Success Program for completing a nutrient management plan for your farm. Applications for the Homegrown Success Program are only accepted once per year so funding for a nutrient management plan should be requested in conjunction with all other eligible projects administered by this program.

The cost of developing your first NMP will be funded at 100%, up to a maximum of \$1500. Nutrient management plan renewals are funded at 50%, up to a maximum of \$600.

### Requirements for assistance:

The Nutrient Management Planner must have passed the Atlantic Agricultural Coordinating Council (AACC) Nutrient Management Course Exam delivered by Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture. They must be in good standing with the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists. A list of planners is located on the back of this factsheet.

### The Nutrient Management Plan must include:

- Producer identification and operation description

- Cover at least 3 cropping years, 3 year manure plan (timing and amount of application), 3 year fertilizer plan (timing and amount of application)
- Manure and/or commercial fertilizer recommendations based on previous two years of history of manure and crops to be grown.
- Recommendations based on current soil analysis and manure analysis (not older than one year)
- Farm land base: farm maps (aerial and line), field names, sizes and soil types
- Nutrient balance sheet
- Lime program
- Phosphorus level description and spreadsheet
- Environmental concerns (including information on surface water bodies and wells)
- Manure animal units (AU)/ha and alternative manure plan (if needed)

### Nutrient Management information required for requesting claims:

- ✓ Completed nutrient management plan summary template- available to qualified planners from the program office
- ✓ Nutrient Balance Sheet
- ✓ Lime Program

### Reference Material

A Nutrient Management Planning reference page is now available on the NS Federation of Agriculture website at: [www.nsfa-fane.ca/nmp](http://www.nsfa-fane.ca/nmp). More information on equipment calibration, lab services, etc. is also available at: [www.nsfa-fane.ca/efp](http://www.nsfa-fane.ca/efp). You can also call the EFP office at 893-2293 for more information.

## Certified Nutrient Management Planners, Sept 2016

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